

Summary of Administrator Wheeler's Bilateral Meetings

Country (Alphabetical by Region)	Date (Chronological by Country)	Principal Official(s)	Administrator Commitments (Bulleted List)	Actions Taken (Bulleted List)
Asia Pacific				
China	6/15/19	Vice Minister of Ministry of Ecology and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up on timing for rescheduling the JCEC meeting. Continue cooperation on areas under the current MOU and Annexes. Explore cooperation on new areas of marine litter and groundwater. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JCEC placed on hold until further notice EPA-MEE continued cooperative activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA hosted study tour on hazardous waste (Sept 2019) EPA-OAQPS hosted air permitting study tour (Sept 2019) EPA hosted enforcement and compliance training (Oct-Nov 2019) EPA participated in solid waste international workshop in Beijing (Nov 2019) EPA hosted study tour on NPDES permits and BAT (Dec 2019) Developing new MOU to include marine litter cooperation

Japan	9/18/18 (Halifax G7)	Minister of Environment Masaharu Nakagawa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperate on developing a framework of measures to address marine litter in Southeast Asia, particularly the Trash Free Waters initiative (OITA). Convey Japan's request for the U.S. to support their bid for the 2025 World Expo to the State Department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed up with Japan and other regional partners (USAID, ADB, etc) on interest in addressing marine litter. OITA conveyed Japan's interest.
	4/11/2019 (Festival Reception)	Ambassador Shinsuke Sugiyama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight innovative work to address marine litter in U.S. and Japan to serve as examples and provide global leadership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joined with Japan for Earth Day to showcase local approaches to combatting marine litter
	4/22/2019 (Earth Day Event)	Ambassador Shinsuke Sugiyama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate to address marine litter from highest contributors in Asia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to elevate marine litter as a priority for multilateral cooperation.
	5/5/19 (Metz G7)	Minister of Environment Yoshiaki Harada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed that cooperation on marine litter should be number one issue with Japan asking for U.S. support of Marine Plastic Litter Implementation Framework. Japan expressed hope that the Administrator would attend the G20 meeting and the Administrator confirmed his attendance at G20 meeting in Japan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Plastic Litter Implementation Framework was adopted at G20 Karuizawa in June. Administrator attended G20 environment ministers' meeting in Japan.

	6/15-16/2019 (Karuizawa G20)	Minister of Environment Yoshiaki Harada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send thank you letter to Minister and Embassy for G20 support. • Continue cooperation on G20 Resource Efficiency Workshop in October. • Explore regional initiative in Asia on marine litter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter sent. • Workshop was held in Tokyo in October 2019. • EPA has continued to work with Japan and others to pursue marine litter projects in Asia, particularly SE Asia.
	9/23/19 (NYC, UNGA)	Minister of Environment Shinjiro Koizumi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine activities we can work together on surrounding issues of food waste and sports venues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had been pursuing engagement with Nationals during a planned Minister visit to U.S. in May, now cancelled
	12/18/19	Deputy Chief of Mission Kazutoshi Aikawa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Government of Japan and Monumental Sports on food waste-related engagement with the Wizards and Capital One Arena. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursued event with the Wizards which was later cancelled due to inability of Arena to recycle food and shifting priorities from Wizards.
Korea	6/15-16/2019 (Karuizawa G20)	Minster of Environment Myung-Rae Cho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information on microplastics research and water restoration programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing including through UNEA Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group. Minister Cho was to visit EPA HQ and go on Chesapeake Bay study tour in September but had to cancel his visit to DC.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore regional initiative in Asia on marine litter. • Convey Korea interest in continuing NE Asia air quality project to NASA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA has continued to explore regional and bilateral partnership opportunities. • EPA continued air quality monitoring with Korea and is in line to participate in continued KORUS FTA- air quality work.
Taiwan	12/18/19	Minister of Foreign Affairs Joseph Wu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Taiwan on marine litter issues • Send EPA expert to Taiwan's regional marine litter / circular economy workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OITA and OEE developed two (2) Asia environmental education activities on marine litter for Taiwan to fund and implement • New regional Asia marine litter technical workshop being planned with Taiwan
Thailand	6/16/2019	Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Wijan Simachaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences on marine litter, watershed management, and PM 2.5 regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2019, Thailand began submitting data to AirNow International, which provides tools to analyze air quality data including PM 2.5. • In early 2020, EPA is exploring opportunities for engagement on marine litter in Thailand and is coordinating with U.S. Embassy Bangkok to better understand current USG activities and existing needs in the region.

				<p>environmental institutions (such as ECHA in Helsinki and the Joint Research Center in Ispra, Italy) to further advance our cooperative dialog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed draft technical cooperation action timeline and draft cooperative framework text. • Finalized and cleared draft of “Working Arrangements” cooperation document
	5/2/19 (Brussels)	EU Director-General for Health and Food Safety, Anne Bucher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to work together to ensure consumers know that the foods they consume are safe. • EPA offered to host the next technical exchange on glyphosate to follow up on previous collaboration in April in Brussels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA hosted Director of European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) in September for a technical exchange on key topics and expressed interest in continuing exchanges on chemical assessment, computational toxicology, benchmark dose and PFAS
	5/3/19 (Brussels)	EU Director-General for Environment Daniel Calleja	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to continue technical exchanges in areas listed above and to hosting next high-level meeting in the US 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchanged “Working Arrangements” Cooperative Framework Document

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to arrange technical level meeting on recycling after the US Recycling Summit in November. • Exchange information on EPA's WIFIA and SRF, methylene chloride approved uses, best practices on animal testing, and updated lead and copper rules. • Update dialogues on chemicals, including possible relaunch of joint work plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited EU officials to the America Recycles Summit and innovation fair. A representative from the EU Delegation attended. • Developing a chart of EPA actions on resource efficiency similar to the EU chart of Circular Economy action items. • Shared EPA websites regarding key water areas of interest. EPA is proposing a future technical exchange DVC on water reuse. • OCSPP has shared an updated draft workplan with ECHA, awaiting ECHA comments. • Hosted 4th Accelerating the Pace of Chemical Risk Assessments (APCRA) APCRA meeting in RTP in October with ECHA and other European participation. The Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) is
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	5/3/19 (Brussels)	Commissioner of Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella (no longer in office due election of new commissioners across the European Commission)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed to cooperation on marine plastics and further investigation of successful pilots and identification of scalable actions or projects. 	<p>hosting the 5th meeting in August 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held technical call to exchange practices to address air quality through low cost sensors. Held technical DVC between EPA and DG-Environment on Sustainable Materials Management Program and the EU Circular Economy Action Plan in April 2020. EPA co-hosted the G20 Marine Litter workshop with the EU and Japan in Japan. EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent to the new Commissioner, event postponed due to COVID 19
Finland	7/19/18	Environment Minister Kimmo Tiilikainen (no longer Minister in 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share perspectives on priorities within the Arctic Council, circular economy/resource efficiency, and innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA has participated in Arctic Council meetings, co-chairs the Arctic Council's Arctic Contaminants Action Program (ACAP) working group

				<p>WWRC microplastics meetings in February in Paris.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared biodiversity and oceans cooperation request with State Department • EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent to Minister, event postponed due to COVID 19
Germany	<p>9/19/18 (Halifax G7)</p> <p>05/6/19 (Metz G7)</p>	Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue dialog and cooperation on resource efficiency, especially through the G7 and work to better engage with the private sector • Agreed to look into USG/EPA representation at upcoming German hosted next International Conference on Chemicals Management (SAICM) in Bonn. • Agreed to continue cooperation on resource 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned meeting with the Association of German Chambers of Commerce, per their request but they had to cancel • OLEM planning to continue to raise role of private sector with Germany in context of the G7 Resource Alliance meetings • Senior OSCPP officials participated in the SAICM Bonn meetings • EPA staff participated in German Marine Litter G20

	3/19/20 (proposed)	Ambassador Emily Haber	<p>efficiency, noting the link with marine litter and food waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting postponed due to COVID 19 epidemic 	<p>workshop in Dresden in October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA organized a G20 marine litter webinar with German experts on German efforts in the Mekong EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent to Minister, event postponed due to COVID 19 Administrator attended the October German Unity Embassy event and also met the Ambassador at the Alfalfa Club dinner in January 2020
Italy	9/19/18 (Halifax G7)	<p>Minister of Environment, Protection of Land and Sea Sergio Costa</p> <p>(The Italian Minister has expressed several times a keen desire to find concrete areas of cooperation where the U.S. and Italy can work together, especially in food waste.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance bilateral cooperation, especially in the areas of food waste and engagement in Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA co-hosted with Italy a food waste and measurement side event at UNEA in March 2019 Discussed topics of cooperation and potential workplan development with Italian Environment Ministry officials, waiting for Italy to share a draft of proposed workplan Invited Italian government representatives to the Megacities air quality event in Ethiopia. An Italian

	<p>5/7/19 (Metz G7)</p> <p>9/22/19 (NYC-UNGA planned)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed a bilateral technical exchange meeting on food waste in the fall Shared EPA's work on clean water in Africa highlighting lab capacity work. Meeting Cancelled due to schedule challenges 	<p>Embassy representative participated in a side meeting, was unable to attend the workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italy indicated they would send a draft cooperation workplan to EPA for review and discussion. EPA is awaiting the document and concrete proposal from Italy. Food Waste baseball and food bank event planned. Italians were not able to participate. Italy is hosting the G20 in 2021, hopes to work with EPA on a food waste event in Italy next year. EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent to the Minister, event postponed due to COVID 19
Portugal	2/29/20	Minister of Environment and Energy Transition João Pedro Matos Fernandes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited Minister to EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save the date sent, event postponed due to COVID 19

UK	9/18/18 (Halifax G7)	Under Secretary of State for the Environment Therese Coffey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information on food waste management and measurement • Explore possibility of mangrove buffers • Continue cooperation on air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA co-hosted with UK a food waste and measurement side event at UNEA in March 2019 • EPA shared UK mangrove suggestions with State Department • EPA and DEFRA air researchers continue cooperation and annual technical meetings on air modeling • EPA/OTAQ experts participated in latest International Transportation Compliance Summit Network (hosted by UK this round)
	5/7/19 (Metz G7)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA agreed to pass to State Department UK request on US position on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Department informed of CBD query.
	9/26/19 (NYC-UNGA planned)	Minister Zac Goldsmith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Cancelled due to UK Parliament shake up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent, event postponed due to COVID 19
Latin America/Caribbean				
Brazil	6/15/19 (G20)	Minister of Environment Ricardo Salles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a new EPA-MMA MOU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA-MMA MOU signed on 1/30/20 • Meeting held

	9/19/20	Minister of Environment Ricardo Salles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up a meeting in September • Invitation for Administrator to visit Brazil. • Identification of topics to include in proposed EPA-MMA MOU • Invitation for Minister to visit RTP's air quality lab to learn about SmokeSense Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission held January 2020 • Topics included in EPA-MMA MOU signed on 1/30/20 • Invitation to RTP being considered by Minister Salles
	1/30/20	Minister of Environment Ricardo Salles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed EPA-MMA MOU with six priority topics for possible collaboration, including: Ocean Pollution, Marine Litter, Sewage Treatment, Water Quality, Environmental Licensing and Impact Assessment and Waste Management. • Invitation to attend Marine Litter Symposium • EPA to share information on Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), Clean Water State Revolving Fund, LEAN Management at EPA, and website for the National Rural Water Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA-MMA MOU signed on 1/30/20 • List of proposed webinar topics developed to initiate engagement on priority areas • Invitation to and postponement notice of Marine Litter Symposium sent • E-mail with resource information sent to MMA on 2/10/20

	1/30/20	Brazilian National Water Agency (ANA): Ricardo Medeiros de Andrade, Director; Marcelo Cruz, Director of Planning; Oscar Cordeiro, Director of Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extending EPA collaboration with ANA and USGS on water quality issues in Brazil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations for additional water quality collaboration between EPA, ANA and USGS postponed until 3/21 partly due to issues around corona virus and resulting postponement of current EPA work program
Uruguay	3/1/20	Incoming Minister of Housing, Planning, and Environment Moreira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in creation of stand-alone Environment Ministry (invitation for Uruguay's environment team to visit the United States in the coming year to help understand the structure of the EPA) Technical support to address cyanobacteria in Uruguay's waterways Invitation to Marine Litter Symposium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up emails to determine timing and restate EPA offer of assistance of Ministry creation. Delays due to COVID-19. Follow up discussions with EPA Region 4 staff and Embassy Montevideo regarding cyanobacteria. Staff from Water Directorate will answer EPA questions to better define the request and next steps. Invitation and postponement notice sent.
Middle East				
Israel	10/18/18	Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a meeting on the margins of the ceremony to renew a five-year MOU between the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Israel and the EPA, Israel's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Wheeler completed a mission to Israel in November 2019 to advance the EPA/Israel MOU.

			<p>Ambassador Ron Dermer invited Administrator Wheeler to Israel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA and Israel have worked on shared issues of concern including contaminated sites cleanup and water reuse under the MOU. • Israeli and EPA Water Reuse experts led a panel at the Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference in September 2019. • EPA developed a contaminated sites study tour for Israel in October 2019.
	11/17/19	Israeli Minister of Environmental Protection Zeev Elkin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement of enhanced work in the two areas of Contaminated Sites Cleanup and Water Reuse Collaboration for the upcoming year under the joint MOU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel is following up on its October 2019 US study tour to study Contaminated Sites Cleanup technologies, policies and regulations. EPA continues to provide technical input and support. • Embassy Jerusalem has requested an Embassy Science Fellow to work after the COVID crisis on spill prevention for the petroleum industry, contaminated site cleanup, and emergency response.

	11/17/19	Chief Scientist and Chairman of the Board of the Israeli Innovation Authority, Dr. Ami Applebaum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Administrator invited Dr. Applebaum to complete a study tour on innovation in water in the U.S. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel and EPA developed a joint action item under the National Water Reuse Action Plan. • Israel and EPA are preparing an OW-AA led mission to Israel (tentatively October 2020) to visit innovative water reuse sites and organizations in order to increase water reuse knowledge and opportunities in the US (agriculture, utility and industry sectors). • Israel will lead sessions during the Water Reuse Organization Symposium in Denver (or by webinar) in September 2020.
	11/17/19	Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs, Israel Katz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtesy to acknowledge the strong relationship between Israel and the EPA. No commitments were made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation extended but no response received and no date set.
	11/17/19	Israeli Minister of Energy, Yuval Steinitz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate on Energy Star 	

	11/17/19	Director General and Chairman of the Board, Israel Water Authority, Giora Shaham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate on Water Reuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA plans to host a study tour in the U.S. and/or complete a webinar for Israel to learn more about creating and implementing a program similar to Energy Star. Israel and EPA developed a joint action item under the National Water Reuse Action Plan. Israel and EPA are preparing a OW-AA led mission to Israel (tentatively October 2020) to visit innovative water reuse sites and organizations in order to increase water reuse knowledge and opportunities in the U.S. (agriculture, utility and industry sectors). Israel will lead sessions during the Water Reuse Organization Symposium in Denver (or by webinar) in September 2020.
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Saudi Arabia (G20)	6/15/19	Deputy Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Osama Faqila	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer to host Saudi delegation at EPA HQ and/or RTP for U.S. study tour which might include pesticides, chemical safety, hazardous waste, water management or urban air pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting for Saudi response on topic(s) of interest, potential timing and identification of resources to support this possible visit.
North America				
Canada	5/4/19	Side meeting with then Canadian Minister for the Environment and Climate Change (ECCC) Catherine McKenna on the margins of the G-7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Wheeler and Minister McKenna agreed to meet in the future at a location in the Great Lakes region to highlight the importance of the preservation of the Great Lakes. Administrator Wheeler and Minister McKenna jointly stressed the need for the ratification of the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After several attempts, the Canadians were unable to confirm a follow-up meeting due to Canadian elections in early November 2019. All three countries in North America have now ratified the USMCA.
Canada	UPCOMING: Friday, April 17, 2020 @ 2:00 pm	Bilateral Meeting via Telephone Call with new ECCC Minister Wilkinson.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following issues have been identified for discussion purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BC Mining Issues 2020 - Great Lakes - US-CA Air Quality Agreement - USMCA -CEC Council Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
Mexico	6/24/19	Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Victor Toledo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministers agreed to continue the U.S.-Mexico Border 2020 Program and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting was held between EPA and SEMARNAT Border 2020 Senior Leaders on

			convene a meeting in Mexico City to review accomplishments, take stock of remaining tasks and develop a process for a new U.S.-Mexico Border Program	<p>11/5-6, 2019, in Mexico City.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Border 2025 Program is in development to be signed in September 2020
Oceania				
Australia	7/12/2018	Minister for Environment and Energy Josh Frydenberg (no longer in this role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share information on EPA mobile sources work, invited Minister for Environment to Ann Arbor lab Agreed to advance formal bilateral cooperation through a MOU Share information on EPA activities on addressing PFAS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted Australian Minister of Urban Infrastructure's team in Ann Arbor in June 2019 Organized videoconference with Australians on their energy regulatory reform, they cancelled due to government policy change EPA drafted MOU with Environment Ministry, Australian leadership changed and new Australian team has not yet engaged with EPA on this Shared EPA PFAS action plan, intend to invite Australians to international Embassy briefing on EPA PFAS when scheduled EPA Marine Litter Innovation Symposium Save the date sent to

				Minister, event postponed due to COVID 19